(e) Each carrier that is a party to litigation in a Federal court of which the DOT is also a party shall retain all records relating to the case until the receipt of formal notification from the Director, Office of Airline Information, following a written application from the carrier, which authorizes the destruction of these records.

[ER-1214, 46 FR 25415, May 6, 1981, as amended at 60 FR 66725, Dec. 26, 1995]

§ 249.8 Premature loss or destruction of records.

If records are destroyed or lost before the expiration of the prescribed retention period, a statement shall be prepared and submitted to the Director, Office of Airline Information, which lists, as accurately as possible, the unavailable records and describes the circumstances under which they became unavailable.

[ER-1214, 46 FR 25415, May 6, 1981, as amended at 60 FR 66725, Dec. 26, 1995]

§249.9 Carriers going out of business.

The records referred to in these regulations may be destroyed after the business is discontinued and the carrier is completely liquidated. The records may not be destroyed until dissolution is final and all transactions and litigations are completed. When a carrier is merged with another company which is regulated by the DOT, the successor company shall preserve records of the

merged company in accordance with these regulations.

[ER-1214, 46 FR 25415, May 6, 1981, as amended at 60 FR 66725, Dec. 26, 1995]

§ 249.10 Waiver of requirements.

A waiver from any provision of this regulation may be made by the Director, Office of Airline Information, upon the Director's own initiative or upon submission of a written request by a carrier or group of carriers. Each request for waiver shall demonstrate that unusual circumstances warrant a departure from prescribed retention periods, procedures, or techniques, or that compliance with the prescribed requirements would impose an unreasonable burden on the carrier, and that granting the waiver would be in the public interest.

 $[\mathrm{ER}\text{-}1214,\ 46\ \mathrm{FR}\ 25415,\ \mathrm{May}\ 6,\ 1981,\ \mathrm{as}\ \mathrm{amended}\ \mathrm{at}\ 60\ \mathrm{FR}\ 66726,\ \mathrm{Dec}.\ 26,\ 1995]$

Subpart B—Preservation of Records by Carrier

§249.20 Preservation of records by certificated air carriers.

Each certificated air carrier shall retain its records according to the provisions of this section. Unless otherwise specified in the "Schedule of Records," each retention period shall begin on the date when the records are created or otherwise come into the possession of the carrier.

SCHEDULE OF RECORDS

[See footnote at end of table]

Category of records	Retention period
General and subsidiary ledgers or their equivalents:	
(a) General ledgers; subsidiary or auxiliary ledgers	3 years.
(b) Indexes to general and subsidiary ledgers	Do.
2. Journals and journal vouchers:	
(a) General and subsidiary journals, and journal vouchers	3 years.
(b) Papers forming a part of, or necessary to explain, journal entries; entry numbers	Do.
3. Voucher distribution registers or their equivalent	Do.
4. Accounts receivables and payables:	_
(a) Traffic accounts receivable or payable, detailed journals and ledgers or their equivalents,	Do.
together with supporting papers.	-
(b) General accounts receivable or payable, detailed journals and ledgers or their equiva-	Do.
lents, together with supporting papers.	4
(c) Copies of invoices issued by the carrier which have been settled and all supporting pa-	1 year.
pers.	20 -
(d) Copies of Postal Service Forms: Weekly Summary of Airmail Dispatch (No. 2729) and	30 days.
POD Airmail Exemption Record (No. 2734) supporting mail pay claims which have been settled.	